

## Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /028 W  
----- 086265

R 111148Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4442  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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EO 11652: N/

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, ML

SUBJ: MALIAN GOVERNORS PLAY MUSICAL CHAIRS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. MALI'S OFFICIAL DAILY L'ESSOR PUBLISHED AUGUST 9 AN  
AUGUST 3 MINISTERIAL DECREE WHICH SHUFFLED GOVERNORS  
AMONG FOUR OF MALI'S SIX REGIONS. GOVERNOR OF THE  
FIRST (KAYES) REGION, AMARA DANFAGA, TRADES PLACES WITH  
GOVERNOR IBRAHIMA AROULA MAIGA, GOVERNOR OF THE FIFTH  
(MOPTI) REGION, WHILE ABDOURAHMANE MAIGA, GOVERNOR OF  
THE FOURTH (SEGOU) REGION EXCHANGES POSTS WITH THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE THIRD (SIKASSO) REGION, FABDOULAYE  
OUOLOGUEN.

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2. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST MAJOR SHIFT IN REGIONAL  
GOVERNORS IN SEVERAL YEARS. GOVERNOR DANFAGA AND  
GOVERNOR ABDOURAHMANE MAIGA HAD BEEN AT THEIR POSTS  
SEVEN AND EIGHT YEARS, RESPECTIVELY. GOVERNOR OUOLO-  
GUEN HAS SERVED IN SIKASSO FOR FOUR YEARS AND GOVERNOR  
IBRAHIMA AROULA MAIGA HAS BEEN AT MOPTI FIVE. THE  
SHUFFLE LOGICALLY TAKES PLACE IN AUGUST WHEN GOVERNORS  
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TRADITIONALLY TAKE VACATION AND HAVE TIME TO SETTLE

INTO THEIR NEW POSTS. THE MOVE STEMS, HOWEVER, FROM CERTAIN POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. THE GOVERNORS, USING LIMITED RESOURCES IN GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED AREAS, HAVE ESTABLISHED A BETTER RECORD OF ADMINISTRATION THAN THE INCREASINGLY SELF-SERVING AND INEFFICIENT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. DANFAGA AND ABDOURAHMANE MAIGA, ESPECIALLY, HAVE BECOME BENEVOLENT AND POPULAR SATRAPS WITHIN THEIR REGIONS. AND DANFAGA IS CONSIDERED A CANDIDATE TO LEAD A NEW GOVERNMENT SHOULD THE PRESENT ONE FALL. BY CARRYING OUT THIS ADMINISTRATIVE SHIFT, THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT UNDERCUTS THE POWER BASE OF POTENTIAL USURPERS AND KEEPS, FOR THE MOMENT, A TIGHTER REIN ON REGIONAL GOVERNMENT.

DAWKINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS, REORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BAMAKO02788  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760309-0561  
**From:** BAMAKO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760866/aaaacfmj.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MALIAN GOVERNORS PLAY MUSICAL CHAIRS BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, ML  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006